Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/618,250	TATMAN ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	MICHAEL Y. WON	2455	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to *the Appeal Brief filed January 12, 2009 and Interview conducted on March 26, 2009*.

2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are *1-21,24-39,42-45 and 48-51*.

3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
   a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
      1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
      2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____ .
      3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

   * Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.

5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
   (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
      1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
   (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

   Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date *3/26/09* .
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

/Michael Won/
Primary Examiner
March 30, 2009

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

2. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Kenneth D. Springer (Reg. No. 39,843) on March 26, 2009.

3. The application has been amended as follows:

1. **(Currently Amended)** A system for physical location self awareness in network connected devices, said system comprising:

a location server acquiring locations of said devices from a real-time location system;

an agent operable to run on each of said devices, said agent querying said location server for a location of said device; and

wherein when said location server is unable to satisfy said query for said location of said device, said location server is operable to query a hierarchical server that is operable to query other location servers for the location of said device from other real-time location system of a plurality of real-time location systems, wherein each location server is associated with each of said real-time location systems and said hierarchical

server for searching for a location of a device starting from a last known location server outward to a next closest location server.

22. **(Currently Cancelled)**

23. **(Currently Cancelled)**

24. **(Currently Amended)** A method for providing location self awareness in a network connected device, said method comprising:

establishing a location server for acquiring a location of said device from a real-time location system;

executing an agent on said device;

instructing, by said agent, said device to send a query to said location server for location information for said device;

wherein when said location server is unable to provide said location information for said device in response to said query, then said location server querying a hierarchical server to obtain said location information from another location server of another real-time location system of a plurality of real-time location systems, wherein each location server is associated with each of said real-time location systems and said hierarchical server for searching for a location of a device starting from a last known location server outward to a next closest location server; and

storing said location information for said device on said device.

39. **(Currently Amended)** A system for physical location self awareness in a network connected device across a domain of a plurality of related real-time location systems, said system comprising:

a plurality of location servers, each location server acquiring locations of devices under a real-time location system associated with said location server;

an agent operable to run on each of said devices, said agent on a device querying a nearest location server associated with said device for a location of said device and storing location information for said device on said device; and

a hierarchical server adapted to querying each of said location servers for a location of said devices if said nearest location server fails to return a location of said device, wherein said hierarchical server queries a next closest location server outward when said nearest location server fails to return a location of said device.

40. **(Currently Cancelled)**

41. **(Currently Cancelled)**

45. **(Currently Amended)** A method for physical location self awareness in network connected devices across a domain of a plurality of related real-time location systems, said method comprising:

establishing a plurality of location servers, each of said location servers acquiring locations of said devices under a real-time location system associated with said location server;

executing an agent on each of said devices;

instructing, by said agent, that an associated device send a query for location information of said device to a nearest location server associated with said device;

querying, by the hierarchical server, upon failure of said nearest location server to return a location of said device, each of said location servers for a location of said device, wherein said hierarchical server queries a next closest location server outward when said nearest location server fails to return a location of said device; and

storing, by said agent, returned location information for said device on said device.

46. **(Currently Cancelled)**

47. **(Currently Cancelled)**

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 1-21, 24-39, 42-45, and 48-51 are allowable over prior art of record in light of the arguments presented in the Appeal Brief filed January 12, 2009 and the Examiner's Amendment above.

5. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art of record does not disclose, teach, or suggest neither singly nor in combination the claimed limitation of "wherein when said location server is unable to satisfy said query for said location of said device, said location server is operable to query a hierarchical server that is operable to query other location servers for the location of said device from other real-time location system of a plurality of real-time location systems, wherein each location server is associated with each of said real-time location systems and said hierarchical server for searching for a location of a device starting from a last known location server outward to a next closest location server" as recited in independent claim 1 and similarly recited in independent claims 24, 39, and 45.

6. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael Y. Won whose telephone number is 571-272-3993. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th: 7AM-5PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Saleh Najjar can be reached on 571-272-4006. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Michael Won/

Primary Examiner

March 30, 2009